

Message Text

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FOR HOLBROOKE ONLY

FOL RPT MANILA 08397 ACTION SECSTATE USUN NY INFO SECDEF
JCS CINCPAC CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI CINCPACAF HICKAM
AFB HI CINCPACREPPH SUBIC BAY RP 13TH AF CLARK AB RP 22 MAY 78 QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 08397

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: MANILA PRESS ON ROMULO MEETING WITH SECRETARY

1. MANILA MORNING PAPERS CARRY FRONT PAGE STORIES ON
UPCOMING MEETING IN NEW YORK BETWEEN SECRETARY AND
FOREIGN SECRETARY ROMULO. DAILY EXPRESS CARRIES HEADLINE
"RP PRESSES BASE ISSUE." BULLETIN TODAY LEADS WITH
"CPR TO US FOR NEW TALKS ON BASES, ETC." TIMES JOURNAL
CARRIES "RP-US TALKS SCHEDULED MAY 25."

2. NEITHER THE DAILY EXPRESS NOR THE BULLETIN TODAY
PROVIDE MUCH FOUNDATION FOR THEIR HEADLINES. ALL THREE
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MORNING DAILIES HIGHLIGHT MARCOS STATEMENT (AIRPORT
INTERVIEW BEFORE ARRIVAL OF KING OF NEPAL) THAT HE IS
SENDING ROMULO TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY "ON VARIOUS
ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES".
ROMULO IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID ONLY THAT HE WILL TAKE
UP "A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS AFFECTING RP-US RELATIONS."
THE DAILY EXPRESS GOES ON TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS

UNDERSTOOD THAT ROMULO WILL DISCUSS THE PENDING NEGOTIATIONS ON THE MILITARY BASES AND TRADE AGREEMENTS. THE DAILY EXPRESS FURTHER NOTES THAT ROMULO EXPECTS TO FOLLOW UP ON THE AGREEMENT REACHED DURING VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S RECENT VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE MAY 4 JOINT STATEMENT IS CITED. THE BULLETIN TODAY INTERPRETS ROMULO'S TRIP AS A FOLLOW UP TO A "THAW" IN RELATIONS WHICH BEGAN WITH THSQVICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. 3. ALL THREE DAILIES REPORT THAT MARCOS SAID THAT ROMULO IS EXPECTED TO MEET WITH OTHER AMERICAN DECISION-MAKERS SUCH AS MEMBERS OF THE CABINET AND THE CONGRESS. TOUSSAINT

UNQUOTE VANCE

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